March 22, 2011

Issued as of 1:57 p.m.

For more information: NDDOT Communications (701) 328-4444

No Travel Advisory extended to north central areas

The North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT) has extended the **No Travel Advisory** to include Minot, Crosby, Bowbells, Mohall, Kenmare, Towner, Harvey and surrounding areas due to heavy snow causing reduced visibility, with slush and snow accumulating on roadways making travel hazardous.

A **No Travel Advisory** remains in effect for Glen Ullin, Center, Underwood, Williston, Tioga, Stanley, Watford City, New Town, Garrison, Parshall, Killdeer, Beulah, Dickinson, Mott, Richardton and surrounding areas. In addition. Motorists should not travel unless absolutely necessary in these areas.

A **Travel Alert** remains in effect for the remainder of the state. As this storm develops, **Travel Alerts** have the potential to change to **No Travel Advisories** if conditions deteriorate. The National Weather Service is predicting this as a major winter storm which may create icy road conditions, heavy snow drifts, and reduced visibility making travel hazardous. Motorists are encouraged to monitor the weather and road conditions prior to traveling.

For road information, call 511 from any type of phone or go to the website: www.dot.nd.gov.

Please be advised that road condition information on 511 and the travel map is updated daily from 5 a.m. until 9 p.m. CST. The road report is based upon the information available to the NDDOT at the time of preparation and is provided solely as a public service. Conditions may vary from those reported.

NDDOT releases information to inform the public about travel conditions throughout the state. The three categories are as follows:

- 1. <u>Travel Alerts</u> are issued to alert motorists that areas of challenging winter driving conditions may be encountered on roadways. Conditions are such that motorists can still travel; however, they should be aware that rapidly changing conditions may result in travel delays due to reduced speeds and visibility.
- 2. <u>No Travel Advisories</u> are issued when conditions warrant no travel but not a road closure. No Travel Advisories have the potential to change to a Road Closure if conditions deteriorate. No Travel Advisories are issued for public safety to encourage motorists not to venture out onto the roads. Motorists are urged to take No Travel Advisories seriously. Conditions change often during a storm event and motorists may become stranded if they are caught between destinations.
- 3. <u>Roads are closed</u> when conditions create a life-threatening danger to motorists. The roadway is impassable and it is against the law to drive past a road closure device on a closed road. Motorists should obey road closures, even when a sign or a gate is not present.

If you become stranded, motorists should stay with their vehicle and call 911 for emergency assistance.

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